

With Compliments  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
ERNEST LEACH,  
*M.A., M.D. B.Ch. (Oxon.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.) L.R.C.P. (London).*  
FOR THE  
WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT  
FOR THE YEAR 1914.

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BUNGAY:  
H. W. SHORT, PRINTER, MARKET PLACE.



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AS TO THE  
Sanitary Condition of the Wangford  
Rural District,  
During the Year 1914

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
COUNCIL OF THE RURAL DISTRICT OF WANGFORD.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present to you my report for the year 1914.

The Wangford Rural District extends along the southern bank of the river Waveney for 14 miles, with an average breadth of about 6 miles, covering an area of 31,192 acres. In the river valley there is a considerable area of marsh land about a quarter of a mile broad liable to be flooded after heavy rains. Away from the valley of the river the ground rises to an average height of 80 feet above the sea level and the surface is undulating. The higher land is covered with a layer of the Great Chalky Boulder Clay, beneath which sands and gravel are found down to the river bed. On the clay area ponds are numerous, and form the chief water supply of the District.

The population is almost entirely agricultural, or dependent upon agriculture.



**The Births** registered in the District were :—95.

Giving a birth rate of 19·4 per thousand, as compared with 22·8 and 24·05 the rate for this District in the two previous years. The rate for England and Wales for 1914 being 21·9 per thousand.

Of Illegitimate children there were 5 births registered.

**The Deaths** for the District for 1914 were 69, giving a death-rate of 12·1 per thousand, as compared with 12·7 in 1913 and 11·8 in 1912.

Of the deaths, 34 occurred in persons of the age of 65 and upwards.

I am glad to report a marked decrease in the Infant Mortality death-rate as compared with last year. During the year 8 deaths have occurred (*vide* Table IV.), in infants under 1 year of age. There has been 1 death from whooping cough. The Infant Mortality Death-rate is 84·2 per thousand births, as compared with 117·1 for 1913.

**The Water Supply** in the district is dependent on open ponds.

**Sewage.**—The Pail System for the night-soil is employed.

**Cowsheds and Dairies.**—The high standard of sanitary efficiency is well maintained.

There are 16 registered cowkeepers, and 313 cows kept.

**Zymotic Diseases.**—The following cases were notified during the year :—

Diphtheria	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	69
Enteric Fever	..	2
Erysipelas	..	1
Varicella (Chicken Pox)		10
Pulmonary Tuberculosis		4
Other Tuberculous Diseases		1
Total		88

**Scarlet Fever.**—Two outbreaks occurred during the year, the disease was of a mild type. One death in a

child resulted from this disease. The cases were mostly from a few villages in the Southern and Eastern parts of the district.

**Enteric Fever.**—One isolated case arose in an out of the way part of the Rural District ; the second one being due to direct infection whilst nursing the first patient.

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**—Four cases were notified being the same number as last year. Four deaths from this disease occurred in 1914, as compared with 5 in 1913, giving a death-rate of '8 per thousand.

**Cancer.**—There were 8 deaths from this, giving a death-rate for this disease per thousand of the population of 1·7.

On account of Infectious Diseases the following Schools were closed during the year :

Ringsfield School from Jan. 12th to Feb. 3rd on account of whooping cough.

Ringsfield School from Nov. 27th until after Xmas on account of scarlet fever.

St. Andrew's Ilketshall, from March 11th on account of croup.

St. James's Southelmham, from June 29th to July 27th on account of scarlet fever.

St. Margaret's Ilketshall, from June 29th to July 20th on account of scabies.

Sotterley, from Oct. 10th to Nov. 2nd on account of scarlet fever.

**Housing Accommodation.**—In September last one of the Local Government Board Inspectors visited the District on this question. A report from him has been received by you and considered.

I gave evidence on your behalf at the Bungay Magistrates Court, and again on appeal at the Ipswich Quarter Sessions in the case *Rees v. Whatling*.

Work under the House and Town Planning Act is proceeding.

Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 .. .. .	89
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	3
Number of representations made to the Local Authority, with a view to the making of Closing Orders .. .. .	0
Number of Closing Orders made ..	0
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders .. .. .	43
Number of dwelling houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put in a fit state for human habitation .. .. .	0

General character of defects found to exist: lack of  
air and ventilation.

Four cases of overcrowding have been dealt with  
during 1914.

**Small Pox.**—Arrangements have been made to treat  
any case that should arise in the District at the Isolation  
Hospital at Oulton.

**Isolation Hospital.**—At the request of your Council  
I examined the "Pest House" at Shipmeadow with a view  
to the possibility of its use as an Isolation Hospital. I  
made my report to you on the matter in a favourable reply,  
subject to certain necessary repairs and alterations. Since  
then the County Medical Officer has also inspected the house  
at my request, and agrees with the report furnished to you.

The appended report by the Sanitary Inspector gives  
further information.

There are no Factories in the District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

ERNEST LEACH, M.A., M.D. (OXON.)

*February, 1915.*

# REPORT

OF THE

## SANITARY INSPECTOR

*For the Year ending 31st December, 1914.*

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### WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have to report for the year ending the 31st day of December, 1914, that the Inspection of the District has been periodically made, and is described as follows:—

But very few complaints have reached me as to any nuisances requiring attention.

The nuisances for the removal of which notices were served were in 5 cases complied with, with 1 exception. This exception was a case involving legal proceedings before the Magistrates, an appeal to Quarter Sessions, and a final appeal to the High Court, whose decision was against this Council.

The number of premises visited was 143, inclusive of 16 cowsheds, which were found to be satisfactory, with 313 cows.

The total number of Infectious Diseases, notified was 88, and the number disinfected under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health was 72.

Two New Cottages have been erected at Willingham, and water certificates granted. Five privies have been converted to the pail system. Overcrowding was abated in four cases.



## HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Progress has been made during the year of the Inspection of houses in accordance with the above Act. The results for the year ending 31st December, 1914, are as follows :—

**Parish of St. James.**—Thirty-two special visits were made during the progress of repairs under Sec. 15.

**Parish of St. Andrew's.**—Forty-eight visits were made at various times to inspect the progress of works, of which notices had been served on the owners under Sec. 15. In 16 cases the notices were complied with.

In two cases privies have been converted to the pail system.

Closing Orders were served in 3 cases.

**Parish of St. Peter's.**—In this parish 16 premises were inspected, and 41 rooms measured and particulars noted.

There was 1 Cottage containing 1 Bedroom, occupied by 2 adults. Five with 2 bedrooms, occupied by 11 adults and 7 children. Seven with 3 bedrooms, occupied by 20 adults and 7 children. One with 4 bedrooms, occupied by 2 adults and 1 child. Two with 5 bedrooms and over, occupied by 12 adults and 3 children.

Seven of the above premises will be visited in a short time by the Housing Committee, and their decision arrived at with regard to the necessary repairs. The question of making Closing Orders in 2 cases will also be considered.

**Parish of St. Michael.**—Thirty-one houses, with 88 rooms were inspected, the rooms measured, and the premises carefully examined and particulars noted. There were 2 cottages with 1 bedroom each, occupied by 9 adults and 1 child. Thirteen with 2 bedrooms, occupied by 28 adults and 6 children. Seven with 3 bedrooms, occupied by 18 adults and 10 children. Six with 4 bedrooms, occupied by 16 adults and two children. Six with 4 bedrooms, occupied by 16 adults and 2 children. Three with 5 bedrooms and upwards, occupied by 8 adults and 9 children.

The repairs required under Sec. 15 of the Act in the



case of 15 premises are awaiting the decision of the Housing Committee, and in one case the necessity of a Closing Order being made.

**Parish of St. Cross.**—In this parish 42 premises have been inspected, and carefully examined, 115 rooms measured, and particulars as to accommodation ascertained.

There were 2 cottages with 1 bedroom, occupied by 3 adults. Eighteen with 2 bedrooms, occupied by 32 adults and 18 children. Fourteen with 3 bedrooms, occupied by 39 adults and 18 children. Five with 4 bedrooms, occupied by 17 adults and 1 child. Three with 5 bedrooms and upwards, occupied by 15 adults and 3 children.

The Housing Committee of the Council are about inspecting 21 premises with a view to serving notices on the owners to make them reasonably fit for human habitation under Sec. 15 of the Act, and to consider the advisability of serving Closing Orders in 4 cases.

During the month of May I attended the Local Government Board's Inspector on his visits to the following parishes, viz. North Cove, Redisham, St. Andrew's, St. Cross, St. James, St. Lawrence, Shadingfield and Shipmeadow.

The question of the erection of New Cottages in the various parishes of the District has not yet been determined.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. O. REES,

*Inspector.*

**TABLE I.**—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and Previous Years.

**WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.**

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- register'd in the District.	of Resi- dents not register'd in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	* 7680	...	166	21·6	106	13·8	12	2	10	60·2	96	12·5
1910	4350	...	123	28·2	66	15·17	10	...	7	56·9	56	12·8
1911	4820	102	98	23·2	68	14·01	14	6	8	81·7	60	12·4
1912	4823	116	115	24·05	66	13·7	11	2	13	113·04	57	11·8
1913	4856	115	111	22·8	74	15·2	14	2	13	117·1	62	12·7
1914	4871	99	95	19·4	77	15·8	14	6	8	84·2	69	12·1

\* Including Bungay.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 31,192.

Total population at all ages.....

Total families or separate occupiers

4820

1117

At the Census 1911.

**TABLE II.**—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.  
**WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.										TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.										TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.								
	At Ages—Years.							At all Ages.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up-wards	St. James	Sotterley	St. Lawrence	Shadnigfield	Willingham		Weston	Ringsfield	Barsham	St. Andrews	St. Marg'rets (I)	St. Marg'rets (S)	Mettingham	
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus fever ... ..	69	12	40	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever (R) ...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	10	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ... ..	83	14	47	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.—None.



**TABLE III.**—Causes of, and Ages at Death during the  
Year 1914.

**WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.									TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON- RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All Ages.	Un- der 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and up- wards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified ...	68									
{ Uncertified	1						1			
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	1
Rheumatic Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6	3
Bronchitis ... ..	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, exclud- ing Suicide ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	16	3	...	...	...	...	3	4	6	7
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	4
	68	8	2	...	...	3	8	15	33	22

**TABLE IV.**—Infantile Mortality during the year 1914.  
WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

1914.    Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes { Certified 8 { Uncertified	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	8
{ Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Whooping-cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Diarrhœa ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Congenital Malformations ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Premature birth ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
Other causes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ... ..	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	8

Nett Births in the year	{	legitimate	90	Nett Deaths in the year of	{	legitimate infants	8
		illegitimate	5			illegitimate infants	0

ERNEST LEACH, M.D.,

*February, 1915.*

*Medical Officer of Health,*

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*For the Year 1914*

FOR THE

## WANGFORD RURAL DISTRICT

*on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with*

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and  
Workplaces.INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR OR INSPECTOR OF  
NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
<b>Factories</b> ... (Including Factory Laundries)	Nil	...	...
<b>Workshops</b> ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	2	...	...
<b>Workplaces</b> ... (Other than Outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...
<b>Total</b> ...	2	...	...

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Factories—*NIL*.3.—Home Work—*NIL*.4.—Registered Workshops—*NIL*.5.—Other Matters—*NIL*.

ERNEST LEACH, M.D.,

*February, 1915.**Medical Officer of Health.*